

TELEPHONE ADAPTED FOR EMERGENCY DIALING BY TOUCH

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 A telephone has a key pad with ten number keys arranged to dial the digits from 0 to 9 inclusive, each of these number keys being marked with a visual indicator denoting the digit which the number key is arranged to dial. The 1 and 9 number keys are provided with tactile indicators, distinguishable from one another by touch, so that a user can dial 911 by touch under conditions, such as in thick smoke or during a power failure, when the visual indicators on the keys are not readily distinguishable. The tactile indicators do not substantially obscure the visual indicators on the keys bearing the tactile indicators, and are not the Braille equivalents of these visual indicators. An existing telephone may be retrofitted with the tactile indicators by providing two auxiliary members which can be secured to the 1 and 9 number keys, preferably with adhesive. Additional tactile indicators distinguishable by touch may be provided on other keys needed to dial 911 on cordless or cellular telephones, such as the on and send keys on such telephones.